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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,633	09/29/2004	Lu'ay A. Bakir	BUR920040016US1	5632
45831	7590	12/29/2005	EXAMINER	
DILLON & YUDELL LLP 8911 N. CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY., SUITE 2110 AUSTIN, TX 78759			LIN, SUN J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2825	

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/711,633

Applicant(s)

BAKIR ET AL.

Examiner

Sun J. Lin

Art Unit

2825

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/29/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to application 10/711,633 filed on 09/29/2004. Claims 1 – 20 remain pending in the application.

QUAYLE ACTION

2. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Claim Objections

- Claim 1, line 9, before "ESD" insert ~~—said—~~.
Claim 1, line 9, before "location" insert ~~—preferred—~~.
Claim 7, line 11, before "ESD" insert ~~—said—~~.
Claim 7, line 12, before "location" insert ~~—preferred—~~.
Claim 13, line 1, before "effectiveness" delete ~~—the—~~.
Claim 13, line 11, after "threshold;" insert ~~—and—~~.
Claim 17, line 2, before "effectiveness" delete ~~—the—~~.
Claim 17, line 14, after "threshold;" insert ~~—and—~~.

Appropriate corrections are required.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- Claims 1 – 20 are allowed because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the following subject matter:
- A method for placing a plurality of electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection devices within an integrated circuit design, the method comprising generating a list of all ESD-susceptible circuits within a defined region within said

integrated circuit design and associating said set of all ESD-susceptible circuits with a ESD protection device, which is placed in a preferred location for protecting all ESD-susceptible circuits in the list in combination with other limitations as recited in **Claim 1**;

- A computer program for executing a method for placing a plurality of electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection devices within an integrated circuit design, the computer program comprising program code means for generating a list of all ESD-susceptible circuits within a defined region within said integrated circuit design and associating said set of all ESD-susceptible circuits with a ESD protection device, which is placed in a preferred location for protecting all ESD-susceptible circuits in the list in combination with other limitations as recited in **Claim 7**;
- A method for checking effectiveness of a plurality of electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection devices placed within an integrated circuit design, the method comprising modeling each of said plurality of ESD protection devices associated with ESD-susceptible circuits identified in the integrated circuit design as a voltage source connected in series with a resistor in combination with other limitations as recited in **Claim 13**;
- A computer program for executing a method for checking effectiveness of a plurality of electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection devices placed within an integrated circuit design, the computer program comprising program code means for modeling each of said plurality of ESD protection devices associated with ESD-susceptible circuits identified in the integrated circuit design as a voltage source connected in series with a resistor in combination with other limitations as recited in **Claim 17**.

Conclusion

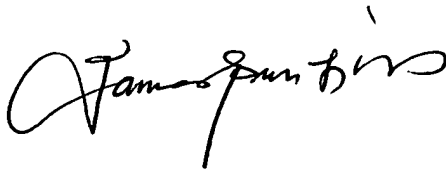
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Sun James Lin* whose telephone number is (571) 272 - 1899. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30AM - 6:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Jack Chiang* can be reached on (571) 272 - 7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571- 273 - 8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sun James Lin
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2825
December 27, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Lin", is written over the printed name and date.